

What is claimed is:

1. A skin engaging member for use in a shaving system of the wet shave type comprising:
- an elongated sheath region comprised of a mixture of a water-soluble shaving aid and a non-water soluble material; and
- a rigid core region extending axially throughout said sheath.
2. The skin engaging member of claim 1 wherein said water soluble shaving aid is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene oxide, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyacrylamide, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyvinyl imidazoline, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyacrylamide, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol, methyl cellulose, starch, water-soluble vinyl polymers, polyhydroxyethylmethacrylate, silicone copolymers, sucrose stearate, vitamin E, panthenol, aloe, essential oils and combinations.
3. A skin engaging member according to claim 2 wherein said water insoluble materials are selected from the group consisting of nylon, ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene, polyacetyl and combinations thereof.
4. A skin engaging member according to claim 3 wherein said sheath comprises from about 70% to about 100% by weight of said water insoluble material and from 0% to about 30% by weight of said water soluble material.
5. A skin engaging member according to claim 4 further comprising additional sheath components selected from the group consisting of plastisizers, beard softeners, lubricants, shaving aids, fillers, tackifiers, fragrances, antipruritic/counterirritant materials, antimicrobial/keratolytic materials, anti-inflammatory agents, astringents, surfactants, comptibilizers, blowing agents or combinations thereof....
6. A skin engaging member according to claim 5 wherein said release agent is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, methoxyppolyethylene glycol, methylcellulose, carboxypolymethylene and combinations.

7. A skin engaging member according to claim 6 further comprising an elongated skin engaging surface extending at least along a portion of the outer surface of said sheath region.

8. A skin engaging member according to claim 7 wherein said sheath region and said core region are applied via coextrusion.

9. A skin engaging member according to claim 8 wherein said core member and said sheath member are fabricated from materials which exhibit different core and sheath colors wherein upon use, said sheath member will wear along said skin engaging surface to expose said different colored core region thus providing an indication that the skin engaging member has reached its desired life.

10. A shaving system of the wet shave type comprising a blade member, and structure defining an external skin engaging member adjacent the shaving edge of said blade member, said skin engaging member comprised of: an elongated sheath region comprised of a mixture of a water-soluble shaving aid and a non-water soluble material; and, a rigid core region extending axially throughout said sheath.

11. The shaving system of claim 10 wherein said water soluble shaving aid is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene oxide, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyacrylamide, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyvinyl imidazonline, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyacrylamide, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol, methyl cellulose, starch, water-soluble vinyl polymers, polyhydroxyethylmethacrylate, silicone copolymers, sucrose stearate, vitamin E, panthenol, aloe, essential oils and combinations.

12. A shaving system according to claim 11 wherein said water insoluble materials are selected from the group consisting of nylon, ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene, polyacetyl and combinations thereof.

13. A shaving system according to claim 12 wherein said sheath comprises from about 70% to about 100% by weight of said water insoluble material and from 0% to about 30% by weight of said water soluble material.

14. A shaving system according to claim 13 further comprising additional sheath components selected from the group consisting of plastisizers, beard softeners, lubricants,

shaving aids, fillers, tackifiers, fragrances, antipruritic/counterirritant materials, antimicrobial/keratolytic materials, anti-inflammatory agents, astringents, surfactants, compatibilizers, blowing agents or combinations thereof...

5 15. A shaving system according to claim 14 wherein said release agent is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, methoxypolyethylene glycol, methylcellulose, carboxypolyethylene and combinations.

10 16. A shaving system according to claim 15 further comprising an elongated skin engaging surface extending at least along a portion of the outer surface of said sheath region.

 17. A shaving system according to claim 16 wherein said sheath region and said core region are applied via coextrusion.

15 18. A shaving system according to claim 17 wherein said core member and said sheath member are fabricated from materials which exhibit different core and sheath colors, wherein upon use, said sheath member will wear along said skin engaging surface to expose said different colored core region thus providing an indication that the skin engaging member has reached its desired life and/or that the razor has reached its desired life.

20 19. A process for forming a skin engaging member for use in a shaving system of the wet shave type that comprising the steps of:

 providing a sheath blend of said water insoluble polymeric material and said water leachable shaving aid material;

25 providing a core polymeric blend; and

 coextruding the core and sheath such that the core material is extending axially throughout said sheath.